

I have been a licensed amateur since 1961, an Extra class since 1966, and a professional in public safety communications since 1973.

I strongly support the establishment of a new Amateur Radio band near 5 MHz for the following reasons:

- (1) The 7 MHz voice band is useless at night for communications, including emergency communications, because it is primary in ITU Regions 1 & 3 for international broadcasting.
- (2) The 3.8 MHz (75 meter) band is not adequate in the Summer for cross-continental communications, and for communications toward the equator (trans-equatorial)
- (3) The 75 meter band is often overcrowded with near-local traffic at night, especially in the Winter.
- (4) The amateur community should be able to share the 5.2 MHz spectrum with other users with undue complications.

I encourage that the FCC allow full access to this band to all General class or higher licensees. Also, I am opposed to sub-band partitioning at this time, but would rather see "good practice" observed to allow cw/data on the lower 50 KHz, and SSB/SSTV on the upper 100 KHz.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Tannehill, P.E.
W7RT